

Mayor Leroy Faber

Mayor Pro Tem Odell Weston

Town Attorney K. Winchester Gaines Town Council Walter Jones Judith Bailey Dedrick Edwards

Town Clerk Melissa Cowan

Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of Applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for Consent to Assign or Transfer Control of Llicenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding - No. 11-65).

May 24, 2011

Dear Commissioners:

The town of Eastover in South Carolina is approximately twenty miles southeast of Columbia. The town covers an area of one square mile, and has access to U.S. Highways 378 and 601. The tracks of the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad run through the heart of the town, with the Wateree River flowing less than four miles from the town limits.

We are a small but vibrant community with a proud history and strong determination to thrive and succeed. However, we do face many challenges. First, a little about our residents: our approximately 630 residents are predominantly female (68 percent), young (61 percent are under the age of 45 years old) and African American (95 percent). Over 40 percent live in poverty, and 64 percent of related children under age 18 are below the poverty level. Forty-three percent have less than a high school diploma.

The leading industries in our town are educational services, healthcare and social assistance. Approximately 56 percent work in service occupations.

Our town is not unique in our challenges. Many like ours across the state and around the country are finding themselves struggling in these tough economic times and at a disadvantage in the competitive workplace due to a lack of tools and resources. One primary tool that we lack is access to broadband services for our residents. Greater access to broadband is greatly needed for our rural, minority community and surrounding areas.

We understand that you are reviewing an agreement between AT&T and T-Mobile to join forces to bring more broadband to communities like ours. We hope that you will support it.

Sincerely,

Lee Faber

Mayor, Town of Eastover

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell